
For Your Information

Program Director Positions at NSF

The Division of Mathematical Sciences (DMS) announces a nationwide search for program director positions at the National Science Foundation (NSF).

NSF Program Directors bear the primary responsibility for carrying out the NSF's overall mission: to support innovative and merit-reviewed activities in basic research and education that contribute to the nation's technical strength, security, and welfare. To discharge this responsibility requires not only knowledge in the appropriate disciplines but also a commitment to high standards, a considerable breadth of interest and receptivity to new ideas, a strong sense of fairness, good judgment, and a high degree of personal integrity.

Applicants should have a Ph.D. or equivalent training in a field of the mathematical sciences, a broad knowledge of one of the relevant disciplinary areas of the DMS, some administrative experience, a knowledge of the general scientific community, skill in written communication and preparation of technical reports, an ability to communicate orally, and several years of successful independent research normally expected of the academic rank of associate professor or higher. Skills in multidisciplinary research are highly desirable.

Qualified individuals who are women, ethnic/racial minorities, and/or persons with disabilities are strongly urged to apply. No person shall be discriminated against on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, or disability in hiring by the NSF.

Program director positions recruited under this announcement may be filled under one of the following appointment options:

Visiting Scientist Appointment: Appointment to this position will be made under the Excepted Authority of the NSF Act. Visiting scientists are on unpaid leave status from their home institutions and appointed to NSF's payroll as

federal employees. NSF withholds Social Security taxes and pays the home institution's contributions to maintain retirement and fringe benefits (i.e., health benefits and life insurance) either directly to the home institution or to the carrier. Appointments are usually made for up to one year and may be extended for an additional year by mutual agreement.

Intergovernmental Personnel Act (IPA) Assignment: Individuals eligible for an IPA assignment with a federal agency include employees of state and local government agencies or institutions of higher education, Indian tribal governments, and other eligible organizations in instances in which such assignments would be of mutual benefit to the organizations involved. Initial assignments under IPA provisions may be made for a period of up to two years, with a possible extension for up to an additional two-year period. The individual remains an employee of the home institution, and NSF provides funding toward the assignee's salary and benefits. Initial IPA assignments are made for a one-year period and may be extended by mutual agreement.

Temporary Excepted Service Appointment: Appointment to this position will be made under the Excepted Authority of the NSF Act. Candidates who do not have civil service status or reinstatement eligibility will not obtain civil service status if selected. Candidates currently in the competitive service will be required to waive competitive civil service rights if selected. Usual civil service benefits (retirement, health benefits, life insurance) are applicable for appointments of more than one year. Temporary appointments may not exceed three years.

For additional information on NSF's rotational programs, see "Programs for Scientists, Engineers and Educators" on the NSF website at http://www.nsf.gov/about/career_opps.

Applicants should send a letter of interest and vita to Deborah F. Lockhart, Executive Officer, Division of Mathematical Sciences, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 1025, Arlington, VA 22230; phone:

703-292-8870; fax: 703-292-9032; email: dlockhart@nsf.gov.

NSF is an Equal Opportunity Employer committed to employing a highly qualified staff that reflects the diversity of our nation. This announcement can also be found at http://www.nsf.gov/publications/vacancy.jsp?org=DMS&nsf_org=DMS.

—DMS announcement

New Math Institute in Wales

In December 2006 the new Wales Institute of Mathematical and Computational Sciences (WIMCS) was launched in Swansea. The institute is supported by a government grant of £5 million (approximately US\$10 million), phased over four years starting in December 2006. The institute, which involves departments in the University of Wales Swansea, Cardiff University, the University of Wales Aberystwyth, and the University of Wales Bangor, is set to boost the research base in mathematical and computational sciences and to increase income for research in these areas in Wales. WIMCS will also play an important role in fostering collaboration with industry and commerce and enhancing the interaction between universities and schools. The patron professor of WIMCS is Sir Michael Atiyah.

The work of WIMCS will be organized in clusters linking different subject areas and/or universities. Initially the following clusters will be introduced: Analysis, Stochastic Processes and Stochastic Analysis, Mathematical Physics, Computational Modeling, and Statistics and Operational Research.

The funding is for appointing seven research professors and twenty fixed-term research fellows. The research professors will be permanent posts located in one of the departments with the appointees working at least for the first four years as research professors in WIMCS. A search for these positions will soon be advertised.

For more information see the website <http://WIMCS.swan.ac.uk>.

—Niels Jacob, University of Wales Swansea

Everett Pitcher Lectures

The next series of Everett Pitcher Lectures will be held April 16–18, 2007, on the campus of Lehigh University in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. The speaker will be George E. Andrews of Pennsylvania State University. The titles of his lectures are: “The Indian Genius, Ramanujan: His Life and the Excitement of His Mathematics” (lecture for a general audience), “Rogers and Ramanujan”, and “The Lost Notebook of Ramanujan”. The lectures, which are open to the public, are held in honor of Everett Pitcher, who was secretary of the AMS from 1967 until 1988. Pitcher served in the mathematics department at Lehigh from 1938 until 1978, when he retired as Distinguished Professor of Mathematics. He passed away in December 2006 at the age of 94. For

further information, contact the Everett Pitcher Lecture Series, Department of Mathematics, Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA, 18015; telephone 610-758-3788; or see the website <http://www.lehigh.edu/~math/pitcher.html>.

—From a Lehigh University announcement

Correction

The January 2007 issue of the *Notices*, pages 20–29, carried an interview with Joan S. Birman. On page 22 the picture of Birman with her husband Joe bears a caption erroneously stating that the photo is from 1954. The photo is from around 1974.

—Allyn Jackson